Dear Localism Task Force,
I continue to be extremely disappointed with how local television stations fail
to provide any "localism" within their broadcast schedules. Local issues
are addressed within local newscasts and then rarely are given more than
2 minutes. Some stations have "public affairs/issues" programs but are
hidden away within the early morning hours. Is it a "catch 22"? They put
them there because they aren't popular (receive poor ratings) or are they not
 popular so they are put in the early morning hours. We may never know
 because stations, for the past 25 years, have buried these kind of programs
 in those hours. The stations should broadcast these programs within
 visuable time periods. These kinds of programs book should decide the
 time slot. The bottom line should not. There are some things that stations
 should do to keep a license. They should do this whether or not they make
 money doing it. It's their obligation.

The natures of the programs continue to be far from interest of the mas
s audience as well. Yes there is a list of local issues a station must
address however presenting them only with in a half hour program or mixed
in within the palette of other news stories in a newscast they are lost.
Stations should increase their commitment to the presentation of local
issues just as they have increased the size of their news departments.
Finally why do we refer to "television" so many times as commercial instead
of public or local? Because it is. Why can't a viewer, a citizen, walk into a
local, I mean commercial station and receive 30 seconds or a minute to
voice their opinion on a topic, any topic free of charge?   Because there is
no money in it. Are local stations afraid that it won't serve the mass a
udience? A mass audience that won't find a single viewer's opinion of i
nterest. I think that the single viewer's opinion is what makes the mass a
udience and that we, the viewers, would be better served by just one o
pinion. After all who owns the airwaves? The public or corporate board
room.